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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001317

SIPDIS

ISN/RA FOR BEDKE AND DANIELS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/09/2019  
TAGS: [KNNP](#) [PARM](#) [IAEA](#) [MNUC](#) [TRGY](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#)  
SUBJECT: TURKEY: VIEWS ON THE LATEST IAEA REPORTS ON IRAN  
AND SYRIA

REF: A. SECSTATE 91633  
[1](#)B. ANKARA 1310

Classified By: Pol-Mil Counselor Anthony Godfrey, Reasons 1.4 (b,d)

[1](#)1. (C) We shared U.S. views on the latest IAEA reports on Iran and Syria (ref a) and passed the non-paper to MFA Deputy DG for Nonproliferation and Disarmement Ahmet Gun on September 8. Gun agreed that the measures undertaken by Iran at Arak and Natanz as signals of cooperation were minimalist, insufficient and late in coming, but suggested that the international community not underestimate this gesture. Gun noted President Gul's conversation with Representative Wexler (ref b) in which Gul applauded President Obama's measured response in the aftermath of the elections and stressed that the international community should not give the Iranians a pretext to reject the P5 Plus 1 offer by using overly tough language. He said the Turkish statements on the reports on Iran and Syria at the IAEA meeting will be similar to those issued in June and will adapt some, but not all, of the language from the EU statement regarding these reports.

[1](#)2. (C) When asked whether Iran's progress in amassing nuclear material as reported by the IAEA had altered Turkey's assessment of its policy options in response to this challenge, Gun categorically stated, "Turkey will never pursue its own nuclear capability. We are satisfied with our extensive conventional deterrent and believe in NATO's Article V."

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